

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lassota (U.S. Patent No. 6,543,335) in view of Payne et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,282,422).

Lassota discloses a twin brewer system, with a pair of brewers, each with a controller for controlling the application of electrical power to a hot water heater. It disables the application of electrical power to the heater of one brewer in response to activation of a start brew switch of the one brewer while electrical power is being applied to the heater of the other brewer. Payne discloses a power control system which controls the power output of one or more resistive heating elements in response to operator-selected power level settings.

In contrast to Lassota and Payne, the claimed invention comprises a system which includes a plurality of warming elements, for re-warming a fluid rapidly, for rapid recovery of warming fluid in preparation for heating in a brewing cycle, and a processing element, for processing and managing the power requirements for warming and heating the fluid in the tank. It a single tank, not a twin brewer system with a separate brewer and controller for each brewer, and it includes a plurality of warming elements for enabling rapid recovery of a pre-brewing warming temperature in preparation for heating in a brewing cycle, not heating elements for brewing, contrary to the references.

Dependent Claims

In view of the patentability of the underlying independent claims over the references as set forth above, it is submitted that the claims depending therefrom are likewise patentable.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted in view of the above that there is no teaching or suggestion of applicant's invention as claimed in the claims submitted herewith, within the scope of the disclosure of the cited references, without extensive modification and the exercise of inventive talent.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and requests that it be passed to issue. If there are any issues which can be discussed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact applicant's attorney at (310) 242-2732.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LLP

By: Howard N. Sommers
Howard N. Sommers
Registration No. 24,138

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201